



Further to your information request FOI/EIR 23/24-409, please find your question and our response below.

Request:

Please provide the following details:

- How many pieces of artwork (valued over £200) does the council own?
 - Of these, which pieces are on public display?
- What is the total value of the artwork owned by the council?
- What is the value of the pieces of artwork on public display (please detail the artist and name of any pieces worth over £10,000)?

Response:

- 48
- 48 on display
- £136,000 (Insurance value)
- All pieces of artwork are on public display. The artists and names of any pieces worth over £10,000 is being withheld under FOI Exemption Section 31(1)(a) Prevention and Detection of Crime.

We believe that releasing details of valuable, displayed artwork could make these a target of crime. Therefore, this information is exempt from disclosure under Section 31 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

In respect of those requests that are answered in full, partially or the total refused, please take this as notice under FOIA, that we:

- a) Consider the information as exempt from disclosure under the Act;
- b) Claim exempt under sections of the Act:

Section 31(1)(a) – Law Enforcement

- c) State why the exemption applies:

31(1) Information which is not exempt information by virtue of section 30 is exempt information if its disclosure under this Act would, or would be likely to, prejudice - (a) the prevention or detection of crime.

As Section 31(1)(a) is a prejudice-based exemption, we have undertaken a public interest test below:

Factors in favour of disclosing

- There are general arguments in promoting the transparency and accountability of public authorities.
- Allowing the public to see where the authority holds funds and investments.

Factors in favour of withholding

- There is an inherent public interest in crime prevention.
- There is public interest in avoiding the costs and time associated with dealing with theft, including increased insurance costs.

We believe that the balance of public interest lies in upholding the exemption and not releasing the information.

This concludes your request FOI/EIR 23/24-409.

If information has been refused, please treat this as a Refusal Notice for the purposes of the Act.

If you disagree with our decision or are otherwise unhappy with how we have dealt with your request in the first instance you may approach foi@eastcambs.gov.uk and request a review. A request for review must be made in no more than 40 working days from the date of this email.

Should you remain dissatisfied with the outcome you have a right under s50 of the Freedom of Information Act to appeal against the decision by contacting the Information Commissioner, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow SK9 5AF.